

Reid-Kennedy Immigration Bill Unfair to American Workers

Legislation would require guest workers to be paid more than American workers at the same worksite.

An important new <u>policy paper</u> released by the <u>Senate Republican Policy Committee</u> demonstrates how the Reid-Kennedy Immigration Bill puts American workers at a disadvantage. Under the Reid-Kennedy bill, certain foreign workers here under a guest-worker program would be guaranteed higher wages than American workers doing the same job.

This provision will be examined at the <u>House Education and the Workforce</u> <u>Committee hearing next Wednesday, July 19th</u>. The hearing will take a broad look at the impact of the Reid-Kennedy bill on American workers and their workplaces.

As Republicans move to strengthen our national security by securing our borders, we will also ensure that we protect American workers. The Reid-Kennedy Senate bill would put American workers at a disadvantage. Yet another reason that Americans continue to favor the House approach to border security.

The Reid-Kennedy Immigration Bill Puts American Workers at a Disadvantage:

• Under current law, in contracts over \$2,000, the Davis Bacon Act requires that not less than the local prevailing wage be paid to <u>all workers employed in federally contracted construction</u> to which the United States or the District of Columbia is a party.

- Under the Reid-Kennedy Immigration Bill, Davis Bacon wage rates would be applied to *foreign temporary workers in all construction occupations, even private projects that receive no federal funding.*
- Thus, under the Reid-Kennedy bill, foreign workers on private construction projects could be guaranteed wages higher than those paid to American workers doing the same job for the same employer.

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